

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15  
IO-14 ACDA-12 EUR-12 /108 W  
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R 211412Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 282  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1051

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SY, EG, LE, IZ, JO, SA, KU, PLO, XF  
SUBJECT: REPORTED INTERVIEW WITH SYRIAN FON MIN

KUWAITI DAILY AL RAI AL AM (FEB. 21) CARRIES UNDATED,  
WIDE RANGING INTERVIEW OF SYRIAN DEP PRI MIN/FON MIN ABD  
AL-HALIM KHADDAM BY EDITOR IN CHIEF. FOLLOWING ARE MAIN  
POINTS OF KHADDAM'S REPORTED REMARKS:

A. LEBANON. THE JOINT SYRIAN-LEBANESE MILITARY COURT  
WILL LOOK INTO "ALL INSTANCES WHICH MIGHT SUBJECT  
SYRIAN FORCES TO DANGER," BUT THE ARAB DETERRENT FORCE  
WILL CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT THE ORDERS OF THE LEBANESE  
GOVERNMENT TO KEEP THE PEACE. "THE PROCESS OF BUILDING THE  
LEBANESE ARMY IS A VERY SENSITIVE QUESTION AND RECENT  
EVENTS REVEALED SOME OF THE GAPS.."

(KHADDAM REFUSED TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE LEBANESE ARMY,  
ALLUDING TO LEBANESE SENSITIVITIES.)

B. JORDAN. THE GOJ HAS "RECONFIRMED" MANY TIMES  
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THAT IT WILL NOT GO BACK ON THE RABAT RESOLUTION. JORDAN  
"WILL NOT TAKE A STEP" TO JOIN THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI  
TALKS.

C. IRAQ. THE ALGIERS SUMMIT MEETING "LEFT THE DOOR  
OPEN" TO IRAQI PARTICIPATION IN THE STEADFASTNESS  
SUMMIT.

D. ISRAEL, EGYPT AND PALESTINIANS. SYRIA WILL NOT

PARTICIPATE IN AND WILL OPPOSE ANY ARAB MEETING WHICH "SERVES THE AIMS OF EGYPT" OR TAKES PLACE WITH SADAT'S PARTICIPATION." (SADAT ALSO APPEARS TO "AVOID" KHADDAM AND TO "HARBOR RANCOUR" AGAINST HIM, THOUGH FROM KHADDAM'S POINT OF VIEW THERE ARE "NO PERSONAL DIFFERENCES.") THE PLAN FOR PALESTINIAN AUTONOMY WHICH THE US AND EGYPT SUPPORT IS A FAR CRY FROM PALESTINIAN INDEPENDENCE, BECAUSE IT DISREGARDS THE PROBLEM OF PALESTINIANS RESIDING IN OTHER COUNTRIES. THE PALESTINIANS MIGHT BE FORCED TO ACCEPT THE PLAN, BUT THE PLO IS AWARE OF THE PLAN'S INHERENT DANGER. IF PALESTINIANS REFUSE TO ACCEPT THE AUTONOMY PLAN OR FOREIGN RESETTLEMENT, THEN SYRIA WILL NEVER ACCEPT THESE. MEANWHILE, SADAT EVENTUALLY WILL SIGN "A UNILATERAL PEACE WITH ISRAEL." ALSO, EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE MADE AN AGREEMENT "TO COVER THE EGYPTIAN JEWS" IN THE SINAI AS PART OF A COMPROMISE ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS AND THE SINAI. E. GENEVA AND ARMS IMBALANCE. THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IS "NOT IN SIGHT." WHAT IS NEEDED NOW IN THE REGION IS MILITARY BALANCE. SYRIA IS WORKING ON THIS, "WILL WELCOME ANY PARTY THAT SUPPORTS US," AND IS WORKING TO DEVELOP SUPPORT FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. (USSR AND FRANCE ACKNOWLEDGED SPECIFICALLY AS PARTIES FROM WHICH HELP WILL BE WELCOME, IN RESPONSE TO INTERVIEWER'S QUESTION) ANY GENEVA CONFERENCE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE "BANNER OF THE VISIT OF SADAT" TO ISRAEL, AND IN VIEW UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE MILITARY IMBALANCE, WILL FAIL.  
MAESTRONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ALLEGATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, MINISTERS (DIPLOMATS)  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** REPORTED INTERVIEW WITH SYRIAN FON MIN KUWAITI DAILY AL RAI AL AM (FEB. 21) CARRIES UNDATED, WIDE RANGING INTERVIEW OF SYRIAN DEP PRI MIN/FON M  
**TAGS:** SOPN, SY, EG, LE, IZ, JO, SA, KU, XF, PLO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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Sheryl P. Walter  
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